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UNCLAS ROME 004122

SIPDIS

SENSITIVE

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [MARR FORCES IN ITALY](#)

SUBJECT: ITALY STATIONING AND SOVEREIGNTY WORKING GROUP
MEETING MINUTES

11. (U) THE SEVENTH MEETING OF THE ITALY STATIONING AND SOVEREIGNTY WORKING GROUP (ISSWOG) WAS HELD IN ROME ON MAY 7. SENIOR US MILITARY OFFICIALS MET WITH EMBASSY ROME REPRESENTATIVES TO DISCUSS ISSUES EFFECTING US PERSONNEL STATIONED AT MILITARY FACILITIES IN ITALY. PARTICIPANTS AND AGENDA ITEMS ARE LISTED AT PARAGRAPH 32.

ITALIAN POLITICAL OVERVIEW

12. (U) THE DCM OPENED THE MEETING WITH AN OVERVIEW OF THE ITALIAN POLITICAL SCENE. HE EMPHASIZED THE PRO-U.S. TENDENCIES OF THE BERLUSCONI GOVERNMENT BUT CAUTIONED THAT ITALY'S COALITION POLITICS AND ITS PRO-EUROPE POLICIES MEAN WE MUST HAVE REALISTIC EXPECTATIONS. THE U.S. WILL NOT ALWAYS BE ABLE TO GET WHAT WE ASK FOR. RESPECTING ITALY'S SOVEREIGNTY REMAINS A CRUCIAL CONSIDERATION WHEN MAKING REQUESTS OR DECISIONS.

13. (U) OTHER PARTICIPANTS ADDED THAT ISSWOG PROVIDES A USEFUL OPPORTUNITY FOR GERMANY-BASED OFFICIALS TO HEAR PERSPECTIVES FROM US AGENCIES IN ITALY THAT CAN SHAPE DECISIONS MADE IN GERMANY. SOME OF THE CHALLENGES OF DOING BUSINESS ARE SIMILAR IN ITALY AND IN GERMANY, AND SHARING INFORMATION AND APPROACHES IS BENEFICIAL. IN BOTH COUNTRIES, SOME ISSUES REQUIRE A FEDERAL RESPONSE AND OTHERS ARE MORE CONSTRUCTIVELY HANDLED AT A LOCAL LEVEL. THE ITALIAN MILITARY OFTEN FACES THE SAME POLITICAL LIMITATIONS AS THE US MILITARY. WE NEED TO KEEP THIS IN MIND, AND MAKE SURE OUR REQUESTS TO THE GOI
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ARE REASONABLE, BALANCED AND EQUITABLE.

14. (U) ISSWOG ALSO IMPROVES COORDINATION BETWEEN US MILITARY AND EMBASSY OFFICIALS TO GIVE A MORE ACCURATE ASSESSMENT OF WHAT THE GOI IS DOING IN SUPPORT OF OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM (OEF) AND OTHER ASPECTS OF THE WAR ON TERRORISM. EUCOM CAN THEN PROVIDE THIS INFORMATION TO CENTCOM, WHICH CAN PASS IT ON TO THE CONGRESS. IT IS DIFFICULT TO PUT A DOLLAR VALUE ON ITALIAN SUPPORT, SUCH AS MOBILIZING THE GARIBALDI AIRCRAFT CARRIER, FOREGONE RENT, AFNS FREQUENCY ALLOCATIONS, OR CARABINIERI SUPPORT. BUT IT IS IMPORTANT TO ACCURATELY REFLECT THE WIDE RANGE OF CONTRIBUTIONS THAT ITALY IS AND HAS BEEN PROVIDING TO THE USG.

BASING VISION UPDATE

15. (SBU) THE JCS AND OSD ARE CONSOLIDATING ALL CINC BASING STUDIES INTO ONE REPORT DUE DECEMBER 2002. THE JROC OVERSEAS PRESENCE STUDY, DUE OCTOBER 2002, WILL GIVE AN IDEA OF WHAT THE DECEMBER REPORT WILL LOOK LIKE AND POSSIBLE EUCOM-SPECIFIC CHANGES. THE REPORTS ARE LIKELY TO EMPHASIZE MORE JOINT BASING, AND TO RECOMMEND CONSOLIDATION OF NONESSENTIAL INSTALLATIONS IN GERMANY WHERE POSSIBLE. CENTRALIZING PEOPLE ONTO LARGER, CONSOLIDATED BASES WILL MAKE IT MORE DIFFICULT TO BUILD RAPPORT AND POSITIVE CONNECTIONS WITH LOCAL COMMUNITIES. THE US MILITARY WILL HAVE TO DO ANY EVEN BETTER JOB OF COMMUNITY OUTREACH UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES.

16. (SBU) NO BASES IN ITALY ARE BEING TARGETED FOR REALIGNMENT AT THIS TIME. THIS WILL BE REASSURING NEWS FOR THE GOI,
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WHICH HAS BEEN VERY INTERESTED IN THE US MILITARY'S LONG-TERM PLANS FOR ITALY. IT MIGHT MAKE DOING BUSINESS EASIER IF THE GOI KNEW THAT THE US IS MAKING LONG-TERM INVESTMENTS IN BASE IMPROVEMENTS IN ITALY. FOR US MILITARY PLANNING PURPOSES, IT WOULD BE HELPFUL TO HAVE PERIODIC REPORTS BY EACH SERVICE THAT DETAIL EXPECTED FUTURE LAND ACQUISITION NEEDS. AT AN APPROPRIATE POINT, THAT INFORMATION SHOULD BE SHARED WITH THE GOI.

17. (U) CAMP DARBY IS A GOOD EXAMPLE OF AN EXISTING JOINT BASE (AF, ARMY), WITH AVIANO, VICENZA AND DARBY FUNCTIONING AS A JOINT OPERATION. REPAIRS AT CAMP DARBY WILL LIKELY NEED TO BE FUNDED BY THE USG BECAUSE NATO FUNDS ARE NOT AVAILABLE. EUCOM IS WAITING FOR USAF AND USAEUR SUGGESTIONS ON HOW BEST TO USE THE FACILITY, WHICH IS IMPORTANT TO THE THEATRE AT LARGE. USAEUR HAS THE LEAD ON COMPILING A REPORT BY THE END OF MAY 2002 ON WHERE THE SERVICES PREFER TO HAVE PRE-POSITIONED STOCKS LOCATED. THE DCM NOTED THAT, IF THE

MILITARY DECIDES TO CLOSE DARBY, IT WOULD BE IMPORTANT TO BE
CLEAR ABOUT WHY BECAUSE THERE WOULD BE A STRONG RESPONSE FROM

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ACTION PM-00

INFO	LOG-00	NP-00	ACQ-00	CIAE-00	DOTE-00	EB-00	EUR-00
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	NSAE-00	IRM-00	TEST-00	PMB-00	DRL-02	SAS-00	/004W
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R 221711Z AUG 02
FM AMEMBASSY ROME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5540
INFO SECDEF WASHDC
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE
NAS SIGONELLA IT
HQ MARFOREUR BOEBLINGEN GE
HQ EUCOM VAIHINGEN GE//ECJ3-CI/ECJ23-H//
COMSIXTHFLT
COMFAIRMED NAPLES IT
CINCUSNAVEUR LONDON UK
CDRUSAREUR HEIDELBERG GE
CDR USASETAF VICENZA IT
CDR USAF RAMSTEIN AB GE
16AF AVIANO AB IT
31FW AVIANO AB IT

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SUBJECT: ITALY STATIONING AND SOVEREIGNTY WORKING GROUP
MEETING MINUTES

THE GOI.

18. (U) LA MADDALENA HAS SERVED AS AN IMPORTANT MAINTENANCE SITE FOR THE EUROPEAN THEATRE FOR 28 YEARS. THE NAVY HAS DECIDED TO CONTINUE TO USE THE FACILITY FOR THE LONG-TERM, BUT WANTS TO CONSOLIDATE OPERATIONS ONTO ONE PROPERTY INSTEAD OF THE CURRENT 33 FACILITIES ON 17 SITES ON THREE ISLANDS. THE CINC HAS SUBMITTED A REQUEST TO THE IDGS AND IS AWAITING A RESPONSE.

19. (U) THE DCM ENCOURAGED PRODUCING A UNIFIED BASING STRATEGY AMONG US MILITARY SERVICES WITHIN ITALY TO ENSURE THAT WHAT WE DO AT ONE FACILITY DOESN'T INADVERTENTLY DISADVANTAGE ANOTHER. HE SUGGESTED THIS TOPIC BE UPDATED AT THE NEXT ISSWOG MEETING.

JMC REPORT AND INPUT

10. (U) JMC ORGANIZATION. FOLLOWING TWO USEFUL MEETINGS WITH ITALIAN COUNTERPARTS, THE JOINT MILITARY COMMISSION (JMC) IS WORKING EFFECTIVELY AND BEGINNING TO PRODUCE RESULTS. LOCAL JMCS ARE BEING ORGANIZED TO ADDRESS LOCAL AND SHORT-TERM ISSUES, INCLUDING THOSE INVOLVING CIVILIAN COMMUNITIES. BROADER ISSUES THAT ARISE WILL BE REFERRED TO THE FULL JMC, WHICH CAN THEN PASS LONG-TERM, STRATEGIC BILATERAL ISSUES TO THE ISSWOG FOR CONSIDERATION AS NECESSARY. THE JMC IS A MIL-MIL FORUM; THE ISSWOG WILL HANDLE THE POL-MIL ISSUES THAT ARISE. PARTICIPANTS NOTED THAT, WHEN USG PLANS AND PROPOSALS

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ARE FIRST DISCUSSED AT THE JMC (AFTER BEING VETTED BY US COMPONENTS), THEY TEND TO BE BETTER RECEIVED BY ITALIAN COUNTERPARTS BECAUSE THEY ARE APT TO BE SEEN AS A JOINT DECISION TO PROCEED. IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT THE JMC HAS THE AUTHORITY TO TAKE ACTION AND DECISIONS ON THOSE ISSUES WITHIN ITS PURVIEW.

11. (U) TECHNICAL ARRANGEMENTS (TAS): GENERAL PETROSKY CONFIRMED THAT HE HAS AUTHORIZED THE JMC CHAIRMAN TO SIGN THE TAS ONCE THEY HAVE BEEN COORDINATED WITH ALL SERVICES AND LEGAL ADVISORS. THE ITALIAN JMC CO-CHAIR ALREADY HAS THIS AUTHORITY.

12. (SBU) SIGONELLA TA: ODC REPORTED THAT THE SIGONELLA TA IS ABOUT 85% COMPLETE. BOTH ITALY AND THE US WANT THE SIG TA SIGNED; GEN. COCCOZZA, THE ITALIAN CO-CHAIR OF THE JMC, MADE IT CLEAR AT THE JMC MEETING THAT THE GOI DOES NOT WANT TO RENEGOTIATE EXISTING AGREEMENTS. DISCUSSIONS ARE MOVING FORWARD, WITH AN EMPHASIS ON RECONCILING THE US NEED FOR FLEXIBILITY (AS PROVIDED UNDER THE SHELL AGREEMENT) AND THE

ITALIAN PREFERENCE FOR ELIMINATING AMBIGUITIES WHERE POSSIBLE. PARTICIPANTS AGREED THAT OPENING BROAD RENEGOTIATIONS WOULD LIKELY JEOPARDIZE ADVANTAGES THAT EXIST UNDER THE CURRENT ARRANGEMENT. THE MORE SPECIFIC THE SHELL AGREEMENT AND ANNEXES BECOME, THE LESS FLEXIBLE AND USEFUL THEY ARE IN RESPONDING TO NEW SITUATIONS AND NEEDS. IN ADDITION, DESPITE A MORE PRO-AMERICAN SLANT, PRIME MINISTER BERLUSCONI HAS BEEN LESS HELPFUL AND MORE CAUTIOUS ON ISSUES WITH DOMESTIC IMPACT, SUCH AS US MILITARY PRESENCE IN ITALY. HE MAY NOT BE IN A POSITION TO SUPPORT SOME USG REQUESTS.

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113. (U) RESIDUAL VALUE: THE ITALIANS MAINTAIN THAT THE GOI HAS NOT OFFICIALLY ACCEPTED RETURNED INFRASTRUCTURE UNTIL THE VALUE HAS BEEN DETERMINED, IN PART DUE TO CONCERNS ABOUT INHERITING REPAIR/MAINTENANCE COSTS AND COSTS OF SECURING THE PROPERTY. THEY WOULD LIKE TO NEGOTIATE SOME CHANGES IN ANNEX B TO THE SHELL AGREEMENT TO CLARIFY THE PROCESS. US SENDING STATE REPRESENTATIVES POINTED OUT THAT, WHILE THE JMC CAN INTERPRET ANNEX B, IT DOES NOT CURRENTLY HAVE AUTHORITY TO NEGOTIATE CHANGES. TO DO SO WOULD REQUIRE REVISED CIRCULAR 175 NEGOTIATING AUTHORITY. MILITARY LAWYERS ARE REVIEWING THE SCOPE OF EXISTING CIRCULAR 175 AUTHORITY, WHICH WILL BE USEFUL IN DEVELOPING PROCEDURES TO INTERPRET THE ANNEXES AND SHELL AGREEMENT.

114. (U) JMC CHAIR: THE JMC RECOMMENDS THAT ADMIRAL MIKE HOLMES SUCCEED GENERAL WAGNER AS THE US JMC CHAIR. THE AIR FORCE CONCURS. THE NEXT JMC MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR SEPTEMBER AT SIGONELLA. AN UPDATE ON JMC ACTIVITIES WILL BE PROVIDED AT THE NEXT ISSWOG MEETING.

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	NSAE-00	IRM-00	TEST-00	PMB-00	DRL-02	SAS-00	/004W
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R 221711Z AUG 02
FM AMEMBASSY ROME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5541
INFO SECDEF WASHDC
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE
NAS SIGONELLA IT
HQ MARFOREUR BOEBLINGEN GE
HQ EUCOM VAIHINGEN GE//ECJ3-CI/ECJ23-H//
COMSIXTHFLT
COMFAIRMED NAPLES IT
CINCUSNAVEUR LONDON UK
CDRUSAREUR HEIDELBERG GE
CDR USASETAF VICENZA IT
CDR USAF RAMSTEIN AB GE
16AF AVIANO AB IT
31FW AVIANO AB IT

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MEETING MINUTES

FORCE PROTECTION

115. (U) THE FORCE PROTECTION WORKING GROUP MET IN AUGUST 2001, BEFORE THE SEPTEMBER 11 ATTACKS, TO EXAMINE US FORCE PROTECTION NEEDS IN ITALY. ADM. HOLMES REPORTED THAT THE US NAVY HAS SIGNED A FP MOU WITH SPAIN TO FORMALIZE EXISTING FP MEASURES. A SIMILAR MOU WITH ITALY HAS BEEN FORWARDED IN DRAFT TO CINCUSNAVEUR FOR VETTING (BY END OF MAY). ONCE OTHER SERVICES IN ITALY HAVE REVIEWED THE MOU, IT WILL GO TO THE EMBASSY FOR REVIEW AND THEN TO THE JMC AND ISSWOG.

116. (U) WHILE THE SPANISH MOU COVERS US SHIPS AT MILITARY FACILITIES AND NOT AT COMMERCIAL PORTS, WHICH CONSTITUTES THE MAJORITY IN ITALY, THE SPANISH TEMPLATE IS A USEFUL STARTING POINT. KEEPING THE FLEXIBILITY THAT CURRENTLY EXISTS IS CRUCIAL; AN MOU THAT CREATES A NATIONAL POLICY THAT REDUCES FLEXIBILITY TO RESPOND TO EACH FACILITY,S PARTICULAR NEEDS WOULD BE COUNTERPRODUCTIVE. THE FPWG CAN REVIEW THE DRAFT MOU AT ITS NEXT MEETING AND EVALUATE WHETHER A SERVICE BY SERVICE MOU WOULD BE MORE APPROPRIATE.

117. (U) PARTICIPANTS AGREED THAT THE GOI IS FULFILLING ITS FP RESPONSIBILITIES AND MEETING USG FP REQUIREMENTS. THE ITALIANS TAKE IT SO SERIOUSLY THAT IT CAN BE DIFFICULT TO TEST THE SYSTEM; SOMEONE IS LIKELY TO BE FIRED IF A WEAKNESS IS DISCOVERED DURING A TEST.

118. (U) COVER LICENSE PLATE INITIATIVE. SENDING STATE HAS UNCLASSIFIED

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WORKED WITH MINISTRY OF INTERIOR AND MINISTRY OF TRANSPORTATION CONTACTS TO AMEND ITALIAN LAW TO ALLOCATE 5000 LICENSE PLATES TO THE US MILITARY TO MANAGE AND DISTRIBUTE APPROPRIATELY. AS OF MAY 3, THE BILL CONTAINING THE AMENDMENT HAD BEEN APPROVED BY THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS AND IS WITH THE CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES. ONCE THE BILL HAS BEEN PASSED, SENDING STATE WILL WORK WITH THE GOI ON IMPLEMENTING REGULATIONS.

119. (U) ACTION ON FORCE PROTECTION TOPIC FOR THE NEXT ISSWOG MEETING:

-- THE FORCE PROTECTION WORKING GROUP WILL MEET AND REVIEW THE DRAFT FP MOU PREPARED BY USN TO EVALUATE WHETHER A SERVICE BY SERVICE MOU WOULD BE PREFERABLE TO ONE COMPREHENSIVE AGREEMENT. UPDATE AT NEXT ISSWOG.
-- SENDING STATE WILL CONTINUE TO TRACK PROGRESS OF LEGISLATIVE AMENDMENT AND WILL WORK ON IMPLEMENTING REGULATIONS. UPDATE AT NEXT ISSWOG.

AFNS

120. (SBU) ISSWOG PARTICIPANTS COMMENDED THE JMC FOR MAKING GREAT PROGRESS ON RESOLVING THE DISPUTE WITH ITALY OVER FREQUENCY ALLOCATION AND BROADCAST OF AFNS; FURTHER PROOF THAT THE JMC IS A USEFUL BODY FOR RESOLVING ISSUES. GENERAL COCOZZA HAS NOT YET RESPONDED TO GENERAL WAGNER'S LETTER REQUESTING A TWO YEAR EXTENSION OF THE CURRENT FREQUENCY ALLOCATION. THIS IS LIKELY TO BE THE LAST TIME THE IDGS WILL LOAN THE FREQUENCY BECAUSE THE GOI NEEDS TO PROVIDE FREQUENCIES TO ITALIAN FIRE, POLICE, ETC. IF NO RESPONSE IS RECEIVED BY SEPTEMBER, ODC AND POL-MIL WILL APPROACH THEIR UNCLASSIFIED

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CONTACTS.

121. (SBU) GENERAL RALSTON REQUESTED THAT OSD DEVELOP A LONG-TERM SOLUTION, SUCH AS PURCHASING SATELLITES FOR PERSONNEL. OSD IS CONSIDERING THIS, ALONG WITH A FUNDING REQUEST FOR \$35 MILLION FOR EUROPE. DOD LAWYERS AND THE COMPTROLLER ARE CONCERNED ABOUT USING ONM MONEY FOR WHAT IS, ESSENTIALLY, A PERSONAL PURCHASE. J6 AND AFNS, DIRECTOR ARE MEETING WITH THE LAWYERS AND COMPTROLLER. FUNDING FOR SATELLITE PURCHASES WILL BE A TOUGH SELL IN WASHINGTON. EUCOM AGREED TO TALK WITH EUCOM PUBLIC AFFAIRS REPRESENTATIVES ABOUT THEIR STRATEGY FOR SUPPORTING THIS REQUEST: FORCE PROTECTION AND QUALITY OF LIFE ARE TWO IMPORTANT ARGUMENTS UNDERLYING THE REQUEST FOR FUNDING. ULTIMATELY, IF AFNS IS NOT ABLE TO REACH SERVICE PERSONNEL, AFNS, REASON FOR BEING MAY BE QUESTIONED MORE FUNDAMENTALLY.

122. (U) ALSO NO RESPONSE FROM THE GOI TO THE USG REQUEST PRESENTED IN AUGUST 2001 FOR A COMPREHENSIVE AGREEMENT (AFNS TECHNICAL ANNEX) THAT WOULD COVER ALL FACILITIES AND ALL 37

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	NSAE-00	IRM-00	TEST-00	PMB-00	DRL-02	SAS-00	/004W
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R 221711Z AUG 02
FM AMEMBASSY ROME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5542
INFO SECDEF WASHDC
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE
NAS SIGONELLA IT
HQ MARFOREUR BOEBLINGEN GE
HQ EUCOM VAIHINGEN GE//ECJ3-CI/ECJ23-H//
COMSIXTHFLT
COMFAIRMED NAPLES IT
CINCUSNAVEUR LONDON UK
CDRUSAREUR HEIDELBERG GE
CDR USASSETAF VICENZA IT
CDR USAFE RAMSTEIN AB GE
16AF AVIANO AB IT
31FW AVIANO AB IT

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ANTENNAE. THIS WOULD IMPROVE ON THE 1982 AGREEMENT THAT GRANTS AFNS THE RIGHT TO BROADCAST ON AN &AS AVAILABLE8 BASIS BUT DOESN,T ASSIGN FREQUENCIES. AMBASSADOR SEMBLER DISCUSSED THE ISSUE DURING A RECENT LUNCH WITH MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS GASPARRI.

123. (U) AS FOR THE TWO TRANSMITTERS IN THE NAPLES AREA THAT THE GOI SHUT DOWN LAST YEAR, THE PARTIES HAVE AGREED TO CONDUCT JOINT TESTING AT THE SITE TO DETERMINE IF AFNS IS/WAS EXCEEDING EMISSION LIMITS. IF NEEDED, SENDING STATE AND POL-MIL WILL WORK THROUGH DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS TO RESOLVE THE DISPUTE.

124. (U) ACTION ON AFNS ISSUES FOR NEXT ISSWOG.
-- ODC/POL-MIL WILL TRACK IDGS RESPONSE TO REQUEST FOR TWO YEAR EXTENSION OF FREQUENCY ALLOCATION, AND WILL APPROACH CONTACTS IF NO ACTION BY SEPTEMBER. UPDATE AT NEXT ISSWOG.
-- EUCOM WILL TRACK ISSUE OF USG FUNDING TO PURCHASE SATELLITE UNITS FOR PERSONNEL OR ALTERNATIVE SOLUTIONS. UPDATE AT NEXT ISSWOG.
-- SENDING STATE/EMBASSY WILL CONTINUE TO PUSH FOR A COMPREHENSIVE AGREEMENT. UPDATE AT NEXT ISSWOG.
-- SENDING STATE/EMBASSY WILL MONITOR PROGRESS ON THE DISPUTE REGARDING BROADCASTS IN THE NAPLES AREA. UPDATE AT NEXT ISSWOG.

MILNOISE STUDY UPDATE

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125. (U) AFTER 4 YEARS OF DELAY, MILNOISE TESTING AT AVIANO IS MOVING FORWARD. METHODOLOGIES HAVE BEEN DEVELOPED TO ENSURE THAT TESTS CONDUCTED WILL BE VALID ACCORDING TO STANDARDIZED PROTOCOLS. A CONCERNED LOCAL GROUP HAD FORCED PROGRESS ON 25 PROJECTS AT AVIANO WORTH \$41.6 MILLION TO HALT UNTIL THEY RECEIVED INFORMATION REGARDING THE IMPACT OF MILNOISE ON PROPERTY VALUES AND A DEFINITE DATE FOR THE START OF THE AVIANO MILNOISE STUDY. A VOTE IS SCHEDULED FOR MAY 8 TO GET THE PROJECTS BACK ON TRACK. MEETINGS WILL BE HELD IN MID-JUNE TO FORMALIZE THE PROTOCOLS, WITH THE NOISE STUDY SCHEDULED TO BE CONDUCTED IN JULY. ESTABLISHING HOW THE STUDY RESULTS WILL BE USED AND BY WHOM WILL BE IMPORTANT. AT THIS TIME, EUCOM HAS NOT REPORTED TO OSD THAT ANY MILITARY CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS IN ITALY ARE IN JEOPARDY. IF THE MAY 8 VOTE DOES NOT FREE THE AVIANO PROJECTS, EUCOM NEEDS TO KNOW IMMEDIATELY.

126. (U) ACTION FOR NEXT ISSWOG. USAFE WILL NOTIFY EUCOM IF AVIANO MILITARY CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS ARE IN JEOPARDY, AND WILL PROVIDE AN UPDATE ON STUDY RESULTS AT NEXT ISSWOG.

TRAINING AREAS

127. (U) ENTS ON SOME TRAINING AREAS IN ITALY AND ELSEWHERE, INCLUDING TRAINING IN ITALIAN AIRSPACE, ARE IMPACTING THE US MILITARY,S ABILITY TO OPERATE. USG IS WORKING WITH THE IDGS TO RESOLVE THE PROBLEM. ONE WAY IS TO ADDRESS THE ISSUE IN TECHNICAL ARRANGEMENTS AS THEY ARE NEGOTIATED. ANOTHER IS TO ASSIST THE MOD WITH ITALIAN TRAINING NEEDS OUTSIDE OF ITALY. GEN. WAGNER REPORTED THAT SETAF HAS NOT EXPERIENCED THIS; IN FACT, ADDITIONAL RANGES HAVE BEEN OPENED FOR SETAF USE.

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EMBASSY ASSISTANCE MAY BE NEEDED IN THE FUTURE BUT NOT AT THIS POINT.
THIS ISSUE WILL BE UPDATED AT THE NEXT ISSWOG.

TRUCK TRAFFIC ROAD RESTRICTIONS

128. (U) USAFE WOULD LIKE TO REACH AN AGREEMENT WITH ITALY TO MOVE MILITARY GOODS BY ROAD ON THOSE DAYS THAT TRUCK TRAFFIC IS PROHIBITED. SUCH AN AGREEMENT HAS BEEN REACHED WITH GERMANY. ODC SUGGESTED USAFE SEND A LETTER WITH THE REQUEST TO ODC FOR FORWARDING TO THE IDGS AS THE BEST WAY TO BEGIN THE PROCESS. A SIMILAR LETTER COULD BE SENT TO THE IDGS REGARDING CARABINIERI ESCORTS WHEN MOVING HAZARDOUS MATERIALS. IT MAY BE HELPFUL FOR THE ARMY TO REVIEW THE ISSUE WITH USAFE TO SEE WHETHER PROCEDURES THE ARMY CURRENTLY HAS IN PLACE CAN BE OF HELP. GENERAL PETROSKY SUGGESTED USAFE WORK THROUGH EUCOM J4 BEFORE APPROACHING THE MOD.

129. (U) ACTION FOR NEXT ISSWOG. USAFE WILL WORK WITH EUCOM J4

AND USAREUR TO SEE WHETHER EXISTING PROCEDURES ADEQUATELY

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	NSAE-00	IRM-00	TEST-00	PMB-00	DRL-02	SAS-00	/004W

-----DCBE59 221724Z /38

R 221711Z AUG 02
FM AMEMBASSY ROME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5543
INFO SECDEF WASHDC
USCINCEUR VAHINGEN GE
NAS SIGONELLA IT
HQ MARFOREUR BOEBLINGEN GE
HQ EUCOM VAHINGEN GE//ECJ3-CI/ECJ23-H//
COMSIXTHFLT
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CINCUSNAVEUR LONDON UK
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ADDRESS PROBLEM.

NEXT ISSWOG MEETING

30. (U) THE NEXT ISSWOG WILL BE HOSTED BY SETAF AT VICENZA ON
DECEMBER 16-17, 2002.

CLOSING REMARKS

31. (U) GENERAL PETROSKY EXPRESSED HIS SINCERE THANKS TO DCM
BILL POPE FOR REVIVING THE ISSWOG. IT HAS PROVEN TO BE VERY
PRODUCTIVE AND A VALUABLE SOURCE OF INFORMATION. THE DCM,
WHO RETURNED TO WASHINGTON IN JUNE, STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE
OF HAVING BASE COMMANDERS ATTEND THE ISSWOG, EVEN AS THE JMC
CHANGES THE DYNAMICS OF THE GROUP. HIS FAREWELL REMARKS WERE
INTERRUPTED BY A CALL FROM THE WHITE HOUSE.

PARTICIPANTS AND AGENDA

32. (U) PRIMARY PARTICIPANTS:
LTG DANIEL PETROSKY CHIEF OF STAFF, EUCOM
WILLIAM POPE DEPUTY CHIEF OF MISSION, EMB.
ROME
LTG MICHAEL DODSON DEPUTY COMMANDING GENERAL,
USAREUR
RADM MICHAEL HOLMES COMFAIRMED
BRIGGEN. DONALD HOFFMAN USAF/CV 31 FW/CC
GARY ROBBINS POLITICAL-MILITARY COUNSELOR
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COL. MARK DEVLIN CHIEF ODC, ROME
CAPT. JOHN OLIVER OIC OF U.S. SENDING STATE OFFICE
COL. J.P. MANLEY DEFENSE ATTACHE OFFICE

TOPIC PAPERS AND LEAD AGENCY:

-- BASING VISION UPDATE	EUCOM/USAREUR, NAVEUR, USAF
-- JMC REPORT	JMC CHAIRMAN
-- JMC INPUT	USAREUR
-- FORCE PROTECTION	COMFAIRMED/EMBASSY
-- AFNS STATUS UPDATE	USSSO
-- MILNOISE STUDY UPDATE	USAF
-- TRAINING AREAS	USAF
-- TRUCK ROAD RESTRICTIONS	USAF

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